

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

31

## 1. Name

historic Kirk, Elisha, House (PREFERRED)

and or common Emery House

## 2. Location

street & number Old Post Road, east side, 1/2 mile SW of  
intersection of MD. Rt. 272 and MD. Rt. 273. N/A not for publication

city, town Calvert ☒ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland code 24 county Cecil code 015

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Charles Emery (Sharyne)

street & number 1212 Calvert Road

city, town North East ☒ vicinity of state Maryland 21901

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Cecil County Courthouse

street & number Main Street

city, town Elkton state Maryland 21921

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust  
Historic Sites Survey

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date August 1978

☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

## 7. Description

CE-84

**Condition**

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

**Check one**

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

**Check one**

☒ original site  
☐ moved date \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

**DESCRIPTION SUMMARY**

Located near the northeast corner of the intersection of Calvert and Church Roads, in Cecil County, Maryland, this two-story, federal-style brick house faces north and is five bays long and two deep with a new stone wing. It has a gable roof with a molded cornice and brick chimneys at both ends, an interior one on the west end and a new exterior one on the east end. The west end of the house is brick laid in common bond with five rows of stretchers. The north side and east ends are stuccoed and the south side is covered by the stone additions. The fenestration is different on all sides.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

The front or north facade has a central door with a one-story, shed-roofed portico with four Doric columns across the front and latticework on the sides. This portico has a flat roof. The eight-panel front door has a transom with semi-circular muntins, reeded trim with roundels in the corner blocks, and a granite sill. The first story windows have 12/12 sash and three-panel shutters; the second story windows have 9/6 sash. All windows on this facade have reeded trim.

The west end has random glazed bricks and a belt course of alternating plain and glazed bricks. There are two 3/3 sash windows in the gable flanking the chimney and a 9/9 sash window with beaded trim in the south bay of the first and second stories. In the north bay below ground level basement is a window.

The east end has two windows in the gable flanking the chimney and two 9/9 sash windows on each floor.

The first floor plan now consists of a stair hall in the center north with an east room the full depth of the house, a west room the same depth as the stairhall; and a south room behind the stair hall and west room. Walls once divided both the east and south rooms in half, suggesting that the original plan either had three rooms on the south side of the house (as on the second floor) or a central hall with two rooms on either side. There are fireplaces in all rooms on this floor. Each with a different mantelpiece. The door and window trim, chairrail, and baseboard also vary from room to room.

In the entrance hall, the stair rises in a single flight against the east wall. Doors to the adjacent rooms open into the hall and a basement entrance is under the stairs. The door to the west room has molded trim and corner blocks with roundels, while the other doors have reeded trim with the same corner blocks; the front door also has a reeded jamb. The baseboard and chairrail with horizontal reeding continue up the stairs and around the second floor hall. The open-string stair has square baluster with a rounded railing and a tapered newel. At the top of the stairs, the railing curves down to the newel in an Empire-style flourish. The steps are outlined with triple-bead molding; a double-bead molding follows the incline with a flat section and astragal paralleling it.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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Elisha Kirk House, Cecil County  
Continuation sheet Maryland Item number 7

Page 1

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

In the east room, the fireplace on the east wall is south of the ghost from the former wall. The mantel in this room is late Victorian with a plain shelf supported on heavy swelled end brackets with top and bottom bulls eye blocks. The mantel also has heavy moldings enframing the hearth. Its central shelf is decorated with a smaller replica of the larger brackets and corner block. The baseboard and window trim are different in the north and south ends of this room. The trim on the south windows is wider and more elaborate; however, the reeded chairrail is the same around the whole room and both doors have the same architrave trim.

In the south room, in the center of the south wall is an original door to a new bathroom flanked on the east by a window and on the west by a door to the new wing. The doors and windows have the same trim with a reeded strip down the center and plain corner blocks. The window trim is partly blocked on the east side by the east room wall. The fireplace in the west wall was originally walk-in; it now has a high mantelpiece with a plain shelf and torus cornice, reeded end blocks and center panel, and a shouldered architrave. The chairrail is beaded below and has a double beaded shelf. The baseboard along the north wall is different from the one on the other walls. The room has its original oak floor.

The fireplace in the north room is flanked on the south by a cupboard; another cupboard is located in the north side of the chimney breast. The mantelpiece consists of a molded en ressaut cornice; a plain frieze; raised end and center panels with recessed rectangles inset with ovals; an architrave with recessed pointed ovals separated by dots; pilasters with a pattern of alternating oval and diamond shaped surrounded by dots; and a beaded surround. Both cupboards have reeded molding with corner blocks. The room has a pine floor, a wide bolection chairrail, and a baseboard.

The second floor plan has two rooms on both sides of the central hall and one room at the south end of the hall. Except for the northeast room which does not have a fireplace, the rooms are similar.

The northeast room has poplar floor boards, a chairrail with a beaded shelf and a triple-beaded base, a baseboard, and door trim with plain corner blocks and a recessed beaded band down the center. There is a closet at the east end of the south wall.

The southeast room has a closet at the west end of the north wall. The fireplace, north of the window in the east wall, has a cupboard in the south side of the chimney breast. On the mantelpiece, the end panels, center panel, and pilasters are reeded and there is a stepped en ressaut cornice, and a plain plastered opening. The cupboard has reeded trim and three panels in the top door and one in the bottom. The windows and door have simple architrave trim with square-cut corners. The chairrail has a beaded shelf and there is a beaded baseboard.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

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Elisha Kirk House, Cecil County

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Page 2

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The room at the end of the hall is now a bathroom but still retains its original chairrail and window trim.

In the southwest room the mantelpiece has pilasters with a band of reeding down the center. A center panels with vertical reeding, a molded cornice, and a plain surround. The door has architrave trim with square-cut corners, and there is simple trim around the windows.

The northwest room fireplace is flanked on the south by a cupboard. The mantel is like the one in the southwest room except the center panel has a horizontal reeded diamond and the end panels and pilasters have a double row of beading down the center. The cupboard is like the one in the first floor north room. There is a plain baseboard and a chairrail with three beaded bands in the center.

In the attic the collar beams are tongue and grooved into the rafters which are lap jointed. The basement walls are of stone.

## 8. Significance

CE-84

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates Early 19th century Builder/Architect unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Applicable Criterium: C

### SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the Elisha Kirk House is derived from its architecture. With its heavy missing, original center-hall-four-over-four room plan, and fully articulated Federal influenced decorative detailing, the Elisha Kirk House exemplified the type of rural domestic architecture that was built in the northeastern section of Maryland, particularly Cecil County, in the early decades of the 19th century. Among the important design features are the five bay symmetrical facade (north elevation), symetrically moulded interior trim, the interplay of shapes in the decoration (ovals against rectangles as seen particularly in the first floor north room mantel piece), and extensive use of reeding as a decorative element in the woodwork. A particularly interesting feature is the reeded window frames on the facade.

### HISTORY AND SUPPORT

No definitive records establish a construction date for the Elisha Kirk House. The house is situated on lot #30 of the Nottingham Lots. Construction and architectural details suggest the 1800 to 1820 period. Family tradition is that the house was constructed in 1813. The present owner's research supports a date between 1811 and 1816. The house is named for an early, if not the original, owner, Elisha Kirk.

Lot #30 of the Nottingham Lots contains the 40 acres granted by William Penn to the Society of Friends for the maintenance and support of the East Nottingham Friends Meeting. The remainder of the 500 lot was held in speculation by the Penn family until later in the 18th century. By 1763 Elisha Hughes owned the southern 322 acres. His father, Thomas, died in 1745 and had owned the same parcel, calling it "Hughes Endeavor." (Churchman Survey-Chester County Historical Society).

Elisha Hughes died, intestate, in 1771, and "Hughes Endeavor" passed to his daughter, Rachel, the wife of Roger Kirk. (Roger Kirk established himself as a captain in the Revolutionary War). In 1809 Roger Kirk died, and Rachel deeded "Hughes Endeavor" to his heirs, her children. About 1811 Elisha Kirk (Rachel's eldest son; born 1775, died 1832) bought out the other heirs of his father's estate. (JS 5/305).

Stubb's Kirk Family History says "Elisha Kirk resided at the Brick Meeting House and was extensively known as a merchant. (Brick Meeting House is the traditional name for the village today called Calvert). Elisha died suddently in 1823, intestate. His wife, Hannah, had died in 1816. These dates are the basis for the belief that the 1811 to 1816 period is most likely the construction of the house.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #3.

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(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

In 1826 Peter Askew (court appointed executor of Elisha Kirk's estate) sold for \$2500 a lot "being part of a track called 'Hughes Endeavor', containing 212 acres, to Elisha Kirk's sister Mary, and her husband, Slater Brown. (JS 23/444). They lived in Fulton Township, Pennsylvania. Slater Brown sold 32 acres, 88 square perches to Joseph Haines for \$1400 in 1849. Records of this transaction refer to "a stone near the store house door", (GMC 13/45) which is now a private residence, but was probably built by Elisha Kirk as a store house. It operated as such until 1958.

Joseph Haines (born 1798, died 1866) was married to Harriet Kirk Haines, a first cousin to Mary Kirk Brown and Elisha Kirk. (Haines, p. 304). He was Judge of the Orphan's Court and Deputy Clerk of the Court. Charles, his son, who died the same day, was Clerk of the Court. (Haines, pp.373-374). The West Chester Pennsylvania Historical Society has a telegram sent to Courtland Chandlee in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania requesting him to attend their joint funeral at Brick Meeting House, January 26, 1866. (Chester County Historical Society) Other records indicate that Joseph was a merchant in Brick Meeting House. His daughter, Mary, was born in 1835 and married John Ireland in 1859. (Haines, p. 374) Mary Ireland has been called the "poetess of Cecil County", and her writings are included in Johnston's Poets and Poetry of Cecil County (1889). She was also the author of religious tracts and childrens' books. Johnston mentions in the preface to Mary Ireland's poetry that she now lives in the house in which she was born. In 1835, other sources show Mary Ireland living in the house in the 1870s. Supposition is that Harriet and Joseph Haines moved into the house and operated the previously mentioned store before finally purchasing the property in 1849. Then in 1859, when Mary and John Ireland were married, they moved into her father's home.

John and Mary Ireland purchased 33 acres, 2 roods, and 20 square perches in 1867 for \$5500 from the other heirs of her fathers estate. (CHH 1/635) Records indicate they they lived in the house and operated the store until the mid 1880s when they moved to Washington, D.C. John Ireland and Mary both died in Washington. (Haines, p. 374).

At this point, family recollections and records do not agree with Cecil County land records. Well substantiated tradition says that Deborah Ann Clayton purchased the property from her cousin, Mary Ireland, about 1885. A period picture shows four ladies, including Deborah, in front of their new house. A record of this transaction has not been found. In 1930 John Clayton, Deborah's son, purchased the property and owned it until 1946. A 1922 picture of the south side of the house shows John's daughter, Stella, in front of the two story wooden addition at the rear of the brick main structure. (this was torn down about 1930) The house passed out of the family in 1946, but in 1954 was purchased by a descendant of Deborah Ann Clayton's father, Issac England. Thus, except for the 1946 to 1954 period, the property was owned continuously by descendants of Thomas Hughes and their relatives, the Kirks, until purchased in 1970 by the present owners.

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Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Elisha Kirk House, Cecil County,

Continuation sheet

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Item number

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## MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cecil County Historical Society, Main Street, Elkton, Maryland  
(Files on Chandlee, Haines, and Kirk families).

Chester County Historical Society West Chester, Pennsylvania. (Files  
on Chandlee, Haines, and Kirk families).

Cecil County Land Records, Courthouse, Elkton, Maryland.

Haines, John W. Richard Haines and His Descendants. Vols. 1,2, Carr  
Publishing Co., Inc. Boyle, Virginia 1961, 1962.

Johnston, George. Poets and Poetry of Cecil County. Elkton, 1887.

North American, Philadelphia paper, June 26, 1907.

Stubbs, Charels H. M.D. Historic Genealogy of the Kirk Family as Established  
by Roger Kirk. Lancaster: Wylie and Griest, Inquirer Printing Co.  
Inc. 1872.

Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Survey. Cecil County (CE-84).  
Annapolis, Maryland.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

CE-84

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #4.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 0.568 acreQuadrangle name Bay View QuadrangleQuadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 

1	8	4	1	5	6	0	0	4	3	9	4	5	6	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

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D 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries of the property being nominated are delineated on the enclosed map labeled National Register Boundaries.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
-------	-----	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Touartorganization Cecil County Courthouse, Room 1date April, 1981street & number Main Streettelephone (301) 398-0200city or town Elktonstate Maryland 21921

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

     national      state   X   local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



CE-84

Kirk, Elisha, House

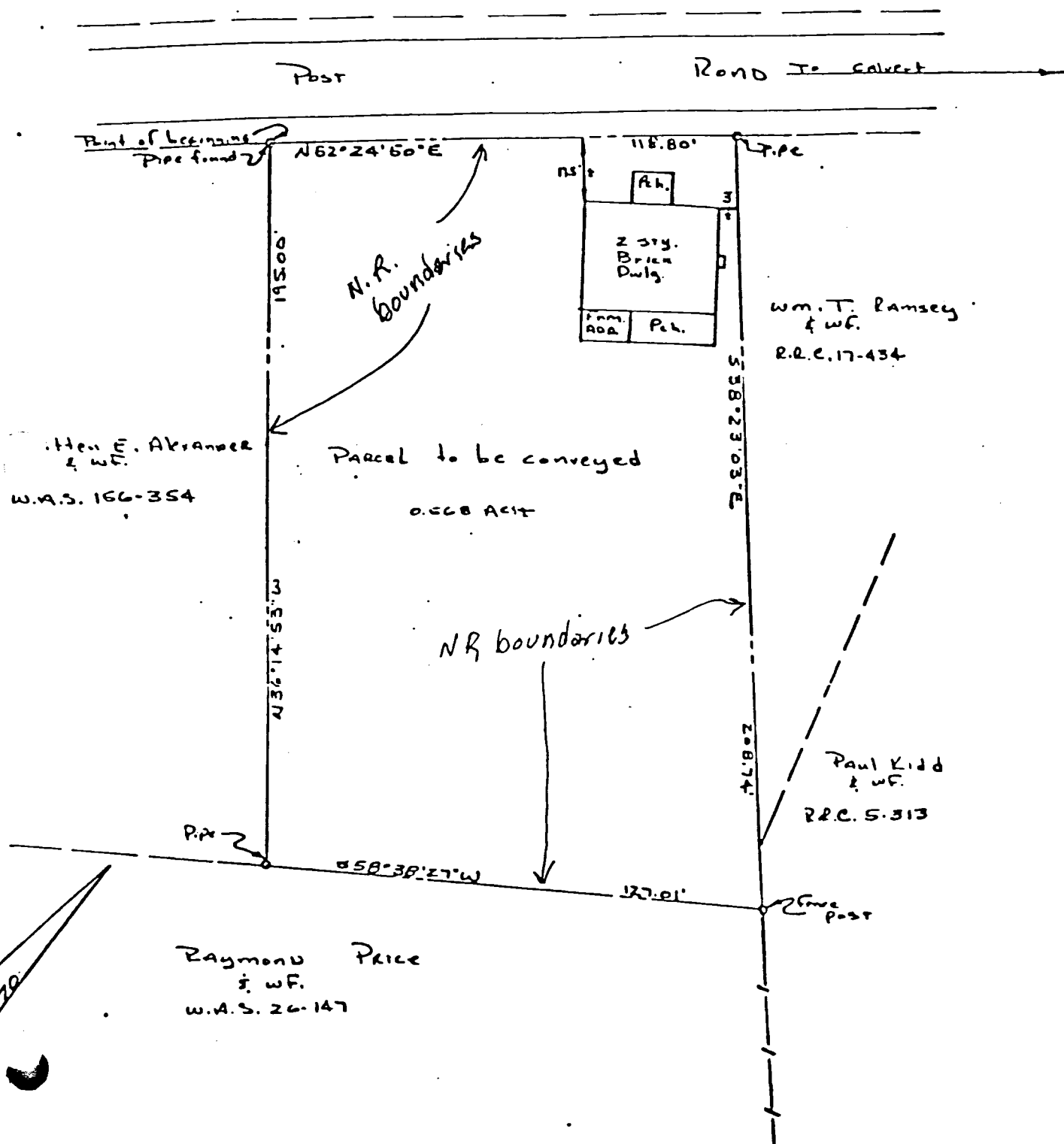
Cecil County

Maryland

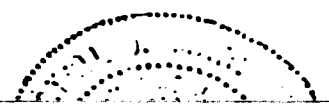
National Register boundaries

1982

scale: 1"=40'

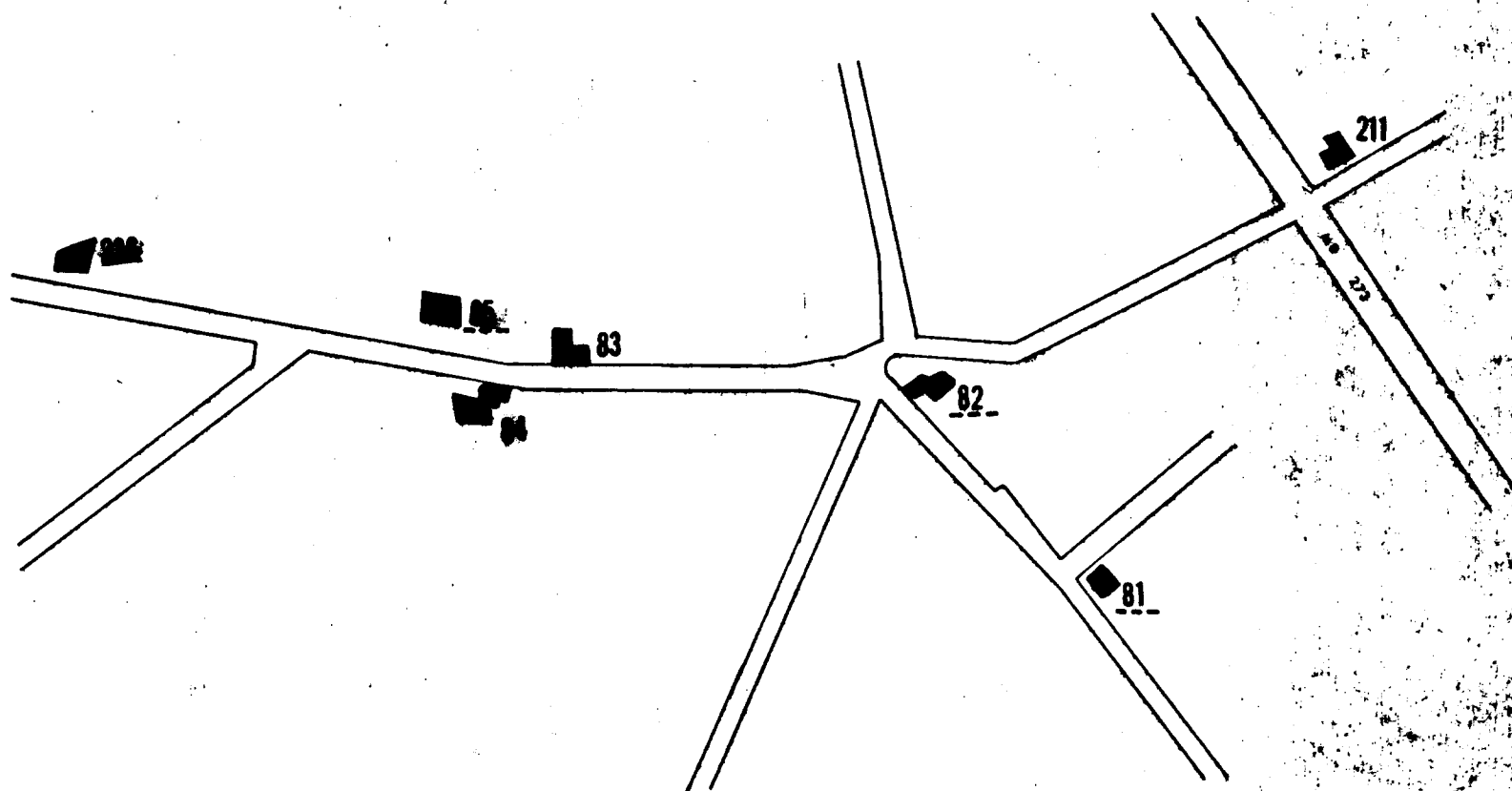


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**CALVERT**  
CECIL Co.

0 400 800 1200



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMfile 905  
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DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Kirk, Elisha, house

AND/OR COMMON

Emery house

**2 LOCATION**STREET & NUMBER East side of Old Post Road, 1/2 mile southwest of intersection  
of Md. Rt. 272 and Md. Rt. 273.

CITY, TOWN

Calvert

☒ VICINITY OF

First

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY

Cecil

CODE

015

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH  
PUBLIC ACQUISITION  
☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
ACCESSIBLE  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE  
☐ COMMERCIAL  
☐ EDUCATIONAL  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT  
☐ GOVERNMENT  
☐ INDUSTRIAL  
☐ MILITARY  
☐ MUSEUM  
☐ PARK  
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Charles and Sharyne Emery (Mr. and Mrs.)

STREET &amp; NUMBER

R. D. Box 272

CITY, TOWN

North East

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland 21901

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Cecil County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland 21921

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT

☐ GOOD

☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED

☐ RUINS

☐ UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED

☒ ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE

☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

CE-84

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Calvert and Church Roads, in Cecil County, Maryland, this two-story, federal-style brick house faces north and is five bays long and two deep with a new stone wing. It has a gable roof with a molded cornice and brick chimneys at both ends -- an interior one in the west end and a new exterior one in the east end. The west end of the house is brick laid in common bond with five rows of stretchers. The north side and east end have been stuccoed and the south side is covered by the stone additions. The fenestration is different on all sides.

The front or north facade has a central door with a one-story, shed-roofed portico with four Doric columns across the front and latticework on the sides. This portico had a flat roof in a photograph taken in the late 19th century. The eight-panel front door has a transom with semi-circular muntins, reeded trim with roundels in the corner blocks, and a granite sill. The first story windows have 12/12 sash and three-panel shutters; the second story windows have 9/6 sash. All windows on this facade have reeded trim.

The west end has random glazed bricks and a belt course of alternating plain and glazed bricks. There are two 3/3 sash windows in the gable flanking the chimney and a 9/9 sash window with beaded trim in the south bay of the first and second stories. In the north bay below ground level basement is a window.

The east end has two windows in the gable flanking the chimney and two 9/9 sash windows on each floor.

The first floor plan has been altered and now consists of a stair hall in the center north with an east room the full depth of the house, a west room the same depth as the stair hall; and a south room behind the stair hall and west room. Walls once divided both the east and south rooms in half, suggesting that the original plan either had three rooms on the south side of the house (as on the second floor) or a central hall with two rooms on either side. There are fireplaces in all rooms on this floor, each with a different mantelpiece. The door and window trim, chairrail, and baseboard also vary from room to room.

In the entrance hall, the stair rises in a single flight against the east wall. Doors to the adjacent rooms open into the hall and a basement entrance is under the stairs. The door to the west room has molded trim and corner blocks with roundels, while the other doors have reeded trim with the same corner blocks; the front door also has a reeded jamb. The baseboard and chairrail with horizontal reeding continue up the stairs and around the second floor hall. The open-string stair has square balusters with a rounded railing and a tapered newel. At the top of the stairs, the railing curves down to the newel in an Empire-style flourish. The steps are outlined with triple-bead molding; a double-bead molding follows the incline with a flat section and astragal paralleling it.

In the east room, the fireplace on the east wall is south of the ghost from the former wall. This late Victorian mantel has a plain shelf supported on heavy swelled end brackets with top and bottom bulls eye blocks. The mantel also interesting for its use of heavy moldings enframing the hearth. Its central shelf is decorated with a smaller replica of the larger brackets and corner block.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CE-84

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DATE ENTERED

Emery House  
Cecil County  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET      ITEM NUMBER 7      PAGE 1

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The baseboard and window trim are different in the north and south ends of this room. The trim on the south windows is wider and more elaborate; however, the reeded chairrail is the same around the whole room and both doors have the same architrave trim.

In the south room, in the center of the south wall is an original door to a new bathroom flanked on the east by a window and on the west by a door to the new wing. The doors and windows have the same trim with a reeded strip down the center and plain corner blocks. The window trim is partly blocked on the east side by the east room wall. The fireplace in the west wall was originally walk-in; it now has a high mantelpiece with a plain shelf and torus cornice, reeded end blocks and center panel, and a shouldered architrave. The chairrail is beaded below and has a double-beaded shelf. The baseboard along the north wall is different from the one on the other walls. The room has its original oak floor.

The fireplace in the north room is flanked on the south by a cupboard; another cupboard is located in the north side of the chimney breast. The mantelpiece consists of a molded en ressaut cornice; a plain frieze; raised end and center panels with recessed rectangles inset with ovals; an architrave with recessed pointed ovals separated by dots; pilasters with a pattern of alternating oval and diamond shapes surrounded by dots; and a beaded surround. Both cupboards have reeded molding with corner blocks. The room has a pine floor, a wide bolection chairrail, and a baseboard.

The second floor plan has two rooms on both sides of the central hall and one room at the south end of the hall. Except for the northeast room which does not have a fireplace, the rooms are similar.

The northeast room has poplar floor boards, a chairrail with a beaded shelf and triple-beaded base, a baseboard, and door trim with plain corner blocks and a recessed beaded band down the center. There is a closet at the east end of the south wall.

The southeast room has a closet at the west end of the north wall. The fireplace, north of the window in the east wall, has a cupboard in the south side of the chimney breast. On the mantelpiece, the end panels, center panel, and pilasters are reeded and there is a stepped en ressaut cornice, and a plain plastered opening. The cupboard has reeded trim and three panels in the top door and one in the bottom. The windows and door have simple architrave trim with square-cut corners. The chairrail has a beaded shelf and there is a beaded baseboard.

The room at the end of the hall is a bathroom and still has its original chairrail and window trim.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

CE-84

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Emery House  
Cecil County  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET . ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

In the southwest room the mantelpiece has pilasters with a band of reeding down the center, a center panel with vertical reeding, a molded cornice, and a plain surround. The door has architrave trim with square-cut corners, and there is simple trim around the windows.

The northwest room fireplace is flanked on the south by a cupboard. The mantel is like the one in the southwest room except the center panel has a horizontal reeded idamond and the end panels and pilasters have a double row of beading down the center. The cupboard is like the one in the first floor north room. There is a plain baseboard and a chairrail with three beaded bnads in the center.

In the attic the collar beams are tongue and grooved into the rafters, which are lap jointed. The basement walls are of stone.

**SIGNIFICANCE**

The Elisha Kirk House <sup>is</sup> remains as one of the most architecturally significant structures in the village of Calvert, Md. The small <sup>house</sup> community <sup>is</sup> centered around an 18<sup>th</sup> century Friends Meeting <sup>it was</sup> and a local tavern, and expanded slightly with a number of 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings. The Elisha Kirk house is the most significant of these 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings, with its predominant five-bay "Georgian" facade <sup>it was</sup> and once associated <sup>it is</sup> adjacent store house. The ~~community undoubtedly lacked a general store in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and therefore encouraged Elisha Kirk to start such an enterprise.~~

Architecturally the Kirk House exemplifies early 19<sup>th</sup> century building with its modified "Georgian" center hall, double-pile plan and imposing five-bay facade. Federally influenced woodwork abounds throughout the house and chair-rail and mantels vary from room to room. The dining room mantel in particular is a wonderful example of Federally influenced design from a creative craftsman's hand. Significant variation from normal features is also found with the termination of the second floor handrail. Some architectural changes have occurred through the years, but have not altered the building's integrity.



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CLAYTON HOUSE  
A COUNTRY STOREKEEPER'S HOME

## HISTORY

AT THIS TIME, NO DEFINITIVE RECORDS HAVE BEEN FOUND TO ESTABLISH A CONSTRUCTION DATE FOR THE CLAYTON HOUSE IN CALVERT, CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND. THE HOUSE IS SITUATED ON LOT #30 OF THE NOTTINGHAM LOTS. CONSTRUCTION AND ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS SUGGEST THE 1800 TO 1820 PERIOD. FAMILY TRADITION IS THAT THE HOUSE WAS CONSTRUCTED IN 1813. THE PRESENT OWNER'S RESEARCH SUPPORTS A DATE BETWEEN 1811 AND 1816.

LOT #30 OF THE NOTTINGHAM LOTS CONTAINS THE 40 ACRES GRANTED BY WILLIAM PENN TO THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT OF THE EAST NOTTINGHAM FRIENDS MEETING. THE REMAINDER OF THE 500-ACRE LOT WAS HELD IN SPECULATION BY THE PENN FAMILY UNTIL LATER IN THE 18TH CENTURY. BY 1763 ELISHA HUGHES OWNED THE SOUTHERN 322 ACRES. HIS FATHER, THOMAS, DIED IN 1745 AND HAD OWNED THE SAME PARCEL, CALLING IT "HUGHES ENDEAVOR". (1)

ELISHA HUGHES DIED, INTERSTATE, IN 1771, AND "HUGHES ENDEAVOR" PASSED TO HIS DAUGHTER, RACHEL, THE WIFE OF ROGER KIRK. (ROGER LATER ESTABLISHED HIMSELF AS A CAPTAIN IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.) IN 1809 ROGER KIRK

DIED, AND RACHEL DEEDED "HUGHES ENDEAVOR" TO HIS  
EIRS, HER CHILDREN. ABOUT 1811 ELISHA KIRK (RACHEL'S  
ELDEST SON; BORN 1775, DIED 1823) BOUGHT OUT THE OTHER  
HEIRS OF HIS FATHER'S ESTATE. (2)

STUBB'S KIRK FAMILY HISTORY SAYS "ELISHA (KIRK)  
RESIDED AT THE BRICK MEETING HOUSE AND WAS  
EXTENSIVELY KNOWN AS A MERCHANT;" (3) (BRICK MEETING  
HOUSE IS THE TRADITIONAL NAME FOR THE VILLAGE TODAY  
CALLED CALVERT.) ELISHA DIED SUDDENLY IN 1823, INTERSTATE.  
HIS WIFE, HANNAH, HAD DIED IN 1816. THESE DATES ARE  
THE BASIS FOR THE BELIEF THAT THE 1811 TO 1816 PERIOD  
IS MOST LIKELY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CLAYTON  
HOUSE.

IN 1826 PETER ASKEW (COURT APPOINTED EXECUTOR OF ELISHA  
KIRK'S ESTATE) SOLD FOR \$2500 A LOT "BEING PART OF A TRACT  
CALLED 'HUGHES ENDEAVOR'", CONTAINING 212 ACRES, TO ELISHA  
KIRK'S SISTER, MARY, AND HER HUSBAND, SLATER BROWN. (4) THEY  
LIVED IN FULTON TOWNSHIP, PENNSYLVANIA. SLATER BROWN  
SOLD 32 ACRES, 88 SQ. PERCHES TO JOSEPH HAINES FOR \$1400  
IN 1849. RECORDS OF THIS TRANSACTION REFER TO "A STONE  
NEAR THE STORE HOUSE DOOR". THIS "STORE HOUSE" (5), WHICH IS  
NOW A PRIVATE RESIDENCE, WAS A STORE UNTIL 1958, AND

PROBABLY WAS BUILT BY ELISHA KIRK.

JOSEPH HAINES (BORN 1798, DIED 1866) WAS MARRIED TO HARRIET KIRK HAINES, A FIRST COUSIN TO MARY KIRK BROWN AND ELISHA KIRK. (6) HE WAS JUDGE OF THE ORPHANS' COURT AND DEPUTY CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT (CECIL) AND DIED SUDDENLY IN ELKTON, <sup>while</sup> PERFORMING THE DUTIES OF CLERK OF THE COURT. (7) CHARLES, HIS SON, WHO DIED THE SAME DAY, WAS CLERK OF THE COURT. (7) THE WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY HAS A TELEGRAM SENT TO COURTLAND CHANDLEE IN CHADDS FORD, PA. REQUESTING HIM TO ATTEND THEIR JOINT FUNERAL AT BRICK MEETING HOUSE, JANUARY 26, 1866. (8) OTHER RECORDS INDICATE THAT JOSEPH WAS A MERCHANT IN BRICK MEETING HOUSE. HIS DAUGHTER, MARY, WAS BORN IN 1835 AND MARRIED JOHN IRELAND IN 1859. (9) MARY IRELAND HAS BEEN CALLED "THE POETESS OF CECIL COUNTY"; AND HER WRITINGS ARE INCLUDED IN JOHNSON'S POETS AND POETRY OF CECIL COUNTY (C. 1879). (10) SHE WAS ALSO THE AUTHOR OF RELIGIOUS TRACTS AND CHILDREN'S BOOKS. JOHNSON MENTIONS IN THE PREFACE TO MARY IRELAND'S POETRY THAT SHE NOW LIVES IN THE HOUSE IN WHICH SHE WAS BORN IN 1835. OTHER SOURCES

SHOW MARY IRELAND LIVING IN THE CLAYTON HOUSE IN THE 1870'S. SUPPOSITION IS THAT HARRIET AND JOSEPH HAINES MOVED INTO THE CLAYTON HOUSE AND OPERATED THE PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED STORE BEFORE FINALLY PURCHASING THE PROPERTY IN 1849. THEN/IN 1859, WHEN MARY AND JOHN IRELAND WERE MARRIED, THEY MOVED INTO HER FATHER'S HOME. (HARRIET KIRK HAINES, MARY'S MOTHER, HAD DIED IN 1858.)

JOHN AND MARY IRELAND PURCHASED 33 ACRES, 2 RODS, AND 20 SQ. PERCHES IN 1867 FOR \$5500 FROM THE OTHER HEIRS OF HER FATHER'S ESTATE. (11) RECORDS INDICATE THAT THEY LIVED IN THE CLAYTON HOUSE AND OPERATED THE STORE UNTIL THE MID-1880'S, WHEN THEY MOVED TO WASHINGTON, D.C. JOHN IRELAND AND MARY BOTH DIED IN WASHINGTON; JOHN/IN 1911, MARY/IN 1927. (12)

AT THIS POINT, FAMILY RECOLLECTIONS AND RECORDS DO NOT AGREE WITH CECIL COUNTY LAND RECORDS. WELL SUBSTANTIATED TRADITION SAYS THAT DEBORAH ANN ENGLAND CLAYTON PURCHASED THE PROPERTY FROM HER COUSIN, MARY IRELAND, ABOUT 1885. A PERIOD PICTURE SHOWS FOUR LADIES, INCLUDING DEBORAH, IN FRONT OF THEIR NEW HOUSE. A RECORD OF THIS

TRANSACTION HAS NOT BEEN FOUND. IN 1930 JOHN CLAYTON, DEBORAH'S SON, PURCHASED THE PROPERTY AND OWNED IT UNTIL 1946. A 1922 PICTURE OF THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE HOUSE SHOWS JOHN'S DAUGHTER, STELLA, IN FRONT OF A TWO-STORY WOODEN ADDITION AT THE REAR OF THE BRICK MAIN STRUCTURE. (THIS WAS TORN DOWN ABOUT 1930.) THE HOUSE PASSED OUT OF THE FAMILY IN 1946, BUT IN 1954 WAS PURCHASED BY A DESCENDANT OF DEBORAH ANN CLAYTON'S FATHER, ISAAC ENGLAND. THUS, EXCEPT FOR THE 1946 TO 1954 PERIOD, THE PROPERTY WAS OWNED CONTINUOUSLY BY DESCENDANTS OF THOMAS HUGHES AND THEIR RELATIVES, THE KIRKS, UNTIL PURCHASED IN 1970 BY THE PRESENT OWNERS.

AN INTERESTING BIT OF VICTORIAN ROMANTICISM OCCURRED IN 1907. IRENE CLAYTON, DAUGHTER OF DEBORAH ANN AND WILLIAM CLAYTON, WAS TAKEN IN BY AN ACTOR POSING AS THE ENGLISH LORD STANLEY. HE CONVINCED HER TO MARRY HIM BEFORE BEING CHASED OUT OF TOWN BY HER BROTHERS. A COPY OF THE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE FROM A PHILADELPHIA PAPER CAN BE SEEN IN THE HOUSE. (13)

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

QUADRANGLE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

QUADRANGLE SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

UTM REFERENCES

A

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

E

G

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D

F

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Natalie Shivers, Summer Intern

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

STREET & NUMBER

John Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

DATE

August 1978

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

STATE

Maryland 21401

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

LOCAL \_\_\_\_\_

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

Administration and Guardian Accounts 1823-1827

CR 34352

p. 134

"We the subscribers appointed by the Orphans Court of Cecil County to view the estate of the heirs of Elisha Kirk minors in the hands of William B. Biles then guardian and to estimate the annual value thereof and further to do what is enjoined by the annexed appointment do hereby certify that we have valued the real estate of the heirs of Elisha Kirk and estimate the annual value thereof at-The farm

The Farm formerly Gotshels (?)

One dwelling house 18 by 22, kitchen 15 by 16, barn 20 by 40, woodland 25 acres in bad repair. The whole value at \$ 30 one half undivided being sold by heirs \$15  
Deduct \$ 15 for 25 acres of woodland

\$ 30.  
\$ 15.  
\$ 15.

Mullen's Delight

1 dwelling house 2 story 21 by 32- 1 kitchen 29 by 31- 1 barn 20 by 36 celered  
1 smoke house 11 by 12- 1 corn house 6 by 12- 1 milk house 11 by 13- 1 stable  
10 by 12 woodland 7 acres in middling repair

\$ 60.

Farm near Brick Meeting House-

1 dwelling house 2 story brick 25 by 29 kitchen 16 by 24 cart house 25 by 25  
smoke house 9 by 10 1 barn 25 by 42 woodland supposed 40 acres in good repair \$ 60.

Lot near Brick Meeting House-

Dwelling and Store house 28 by 35, kitchen 12 by 16 stable 20 by 20 In good repair  
\$ 50.

Jacob Price

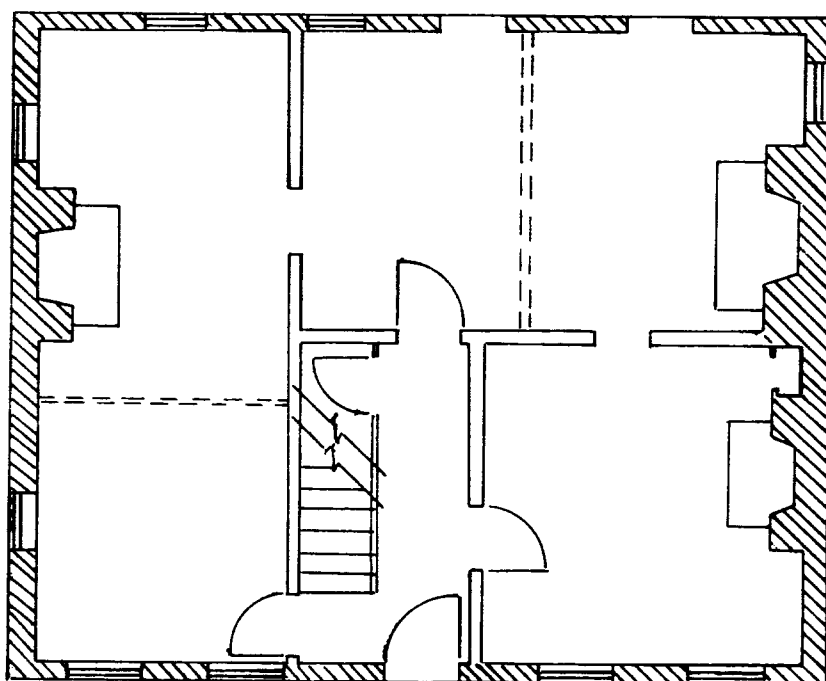
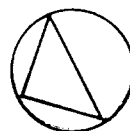
James Ewing

Rec. August 11, 1824

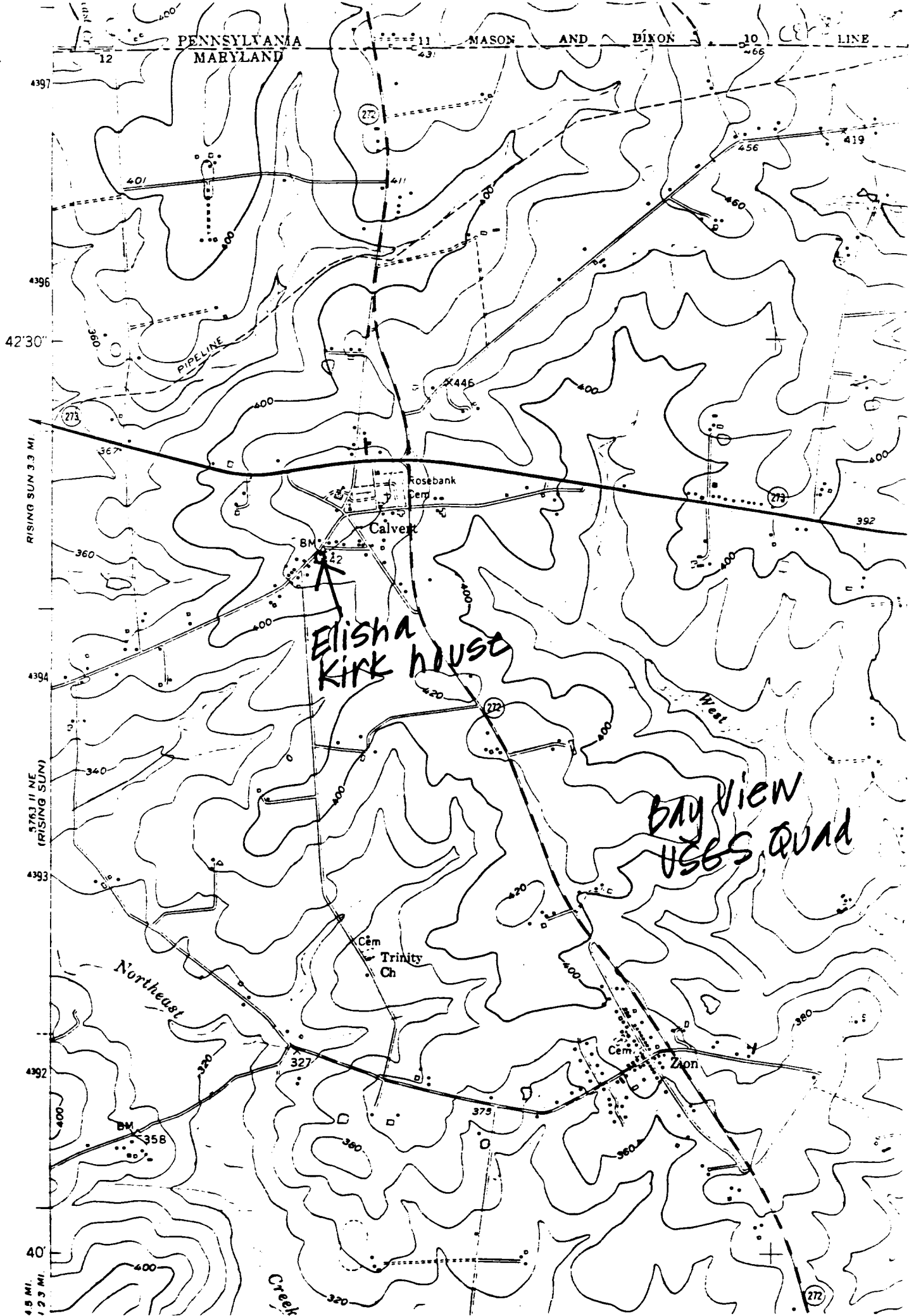
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ELISHA KIRK HOUSE

CIRCA 1814-15









Elisha Kirk House

CE-84

Southwest Elevation

Calvert, Maryland

3/81 PBT Neg./Maryland Historical Trust



ELISHA KIRK House CE-84

"PARKS HOUSE"

SOUTH ELEVATION

NEG. / M.P. HIST. TRUST

12/76 ~~MBM~~ GWL



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Elisha Kirk House (Parks House)

Calvert, Cecil County

~~Dining Room~~ <sup>KITCHEN</sup> Mantel

Photographer - Paul Touart, 1979

NEG/MHT





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Elisha Kirk House

Calvert, Cecil County

Bedroom Mantel

Photographer - Paul Touart, 1979

Neg/MHT



~~John Churchman House~~ ELISHA KIRK CE-84  
~~North Elevation~~ DINING ROOM HOUSE  
MANTEL

Near Calvert, Cecil County  
Photographer - Paul Touart, 1979  
Neg/MHT



CE-84

Elisha Kirk House

Calvert, Cecil County

Dining Room Mantel

Photographer - Paul Touart, 1979

Neg/MHT



CE-84

ELISHA KIRK House

CE-84

Elisha Kirk House

Calvert, Cecil County

Parlor Mantel

Photographer - Paul Touart, 1979

Neg/MHT





CE-84

Elisha Kirk House

Calvert, Cecil County

Bedroom mantel

Photographer - Paul Touart, 1979

Neg/MHT



ELISHA KIRK House CE-84

"PARKS House"

MARYLAND HIST. TRUST - NEG.  
NORTHWEST ELEV.

12/78 ABT GWL